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**Belmont and District  
Souvenir Booklet**

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**SECOND WORLD WAR**

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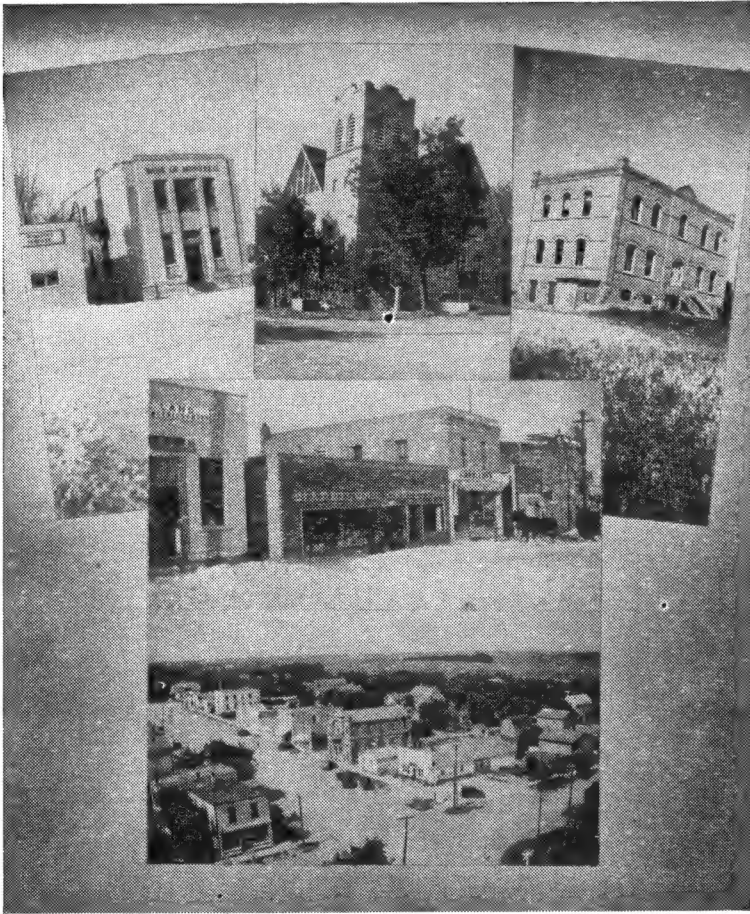


*Presented to*

*W.O. William Ralph Kinley.*

*from the Citizens of Belmont  
and District in grateful  
remembrance of your services.*





Belmont and District  
Souvenir Booklet

Second World War

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Town and District  
Belmont, Manitoba  
Veterans



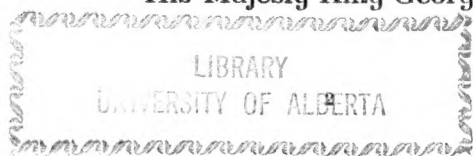
Souvenir Booklet



Second World War  
1939 - 1945



**His Majesty King George VI**





## FOREWORD

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PEACETIME Belmont, nestling quietly in the province of Manitoba was suddenly called upon to play a vital wartime role. Its young men, and some of its young women, most of whom were entering upon a full and useful agricultural life, volunteered for service with Canada's fighting forces. With high hearts they left to embark upon this high endeavor. Veterans of the first world war watched them go; followed their various careers with keen interest; watched them as they returned one by one to take up their lives where they had left off.

Some there were who paid the final sacrifice for their country: Some returned with the vigors of their manhood sapped by the wounds of battle.

The citizens of Belmont for presentations to war veterans decided that a souvenir booklet containing the photographs and brief histories of as many as possible of the veterans of the district would be an excellent idea.

Hence this little booklet. It is offered in a humble attempt to preserve the record of Belmont veterans in the second world war.

Belmont Souvenir Booklet Committee

## Short History Of Belmont And District



In the spring of 1881 the first settlers from Ontario, came by way of the U. S. railway to Emerson, and trecked west over the prairie to this district, by foot, pony, or ox team, and staked their claims. Only the surveyor had been before them. He had left a mound and an iron stake with the number on it at each corner of the section. Otherwise the land was virgin prairie, where the Indian and buffalo had wandered for centuries before.

A few acres were broken at each holding, and in the first years, Pilot Mound, without a railway, was the nearest town, but Brandon, 50 miles to the north west, was the selling market for grain. The mail came by pony express from the east, and a farmer's home was used for the Post Office. The buildings in those early days were log shanties and stables. Rutted trails soon streaked across the prairie between the hills and around the sloughs, taking the place of the deep rutted trails the buffalo had made to the lakes at the foot of the hills.



It was a red letter day among the pioneers, when the C. P. R., in 1885, built their line to Glenboro, sixteen miles to the north. The market was now nearer. Lumber was hauled from this point, and better houses and barns were built. More settlers, many from the Old Country, came to break up the prairie, and the scrub land to the south. A cow or two of the pioneer, grew into herds of cattle which roamed the prairie. Corrals were built to hold them at night. Horses took the place of the lowly oxen, and farm machinery developed. The power first used for threshing was the tread-mill, then came horsepower, the portable steam engine, and the traction engine. Then the gas engine, and today everywhere one sees the combine.



The missionary, driving his horse and buck-board, started holding services in the farm homes, and the Christian Church was established in the community. Little country school houses were built to instruct the growing children. The community spirit was fostered by socials and concerts held during the winter months, and by picnics near a lake or a grove in the

summer time. There was a great stir among the homesteaders when the Northern Pacific Railway decided to build into the locality.



They began planning to run the line north of the Tiger Hills, a range extending east west, but a group of farmers petitioned that the road run south of the hills, and offered a free right of way through their farms. This offer was accepted and the quarter section owned by John O'Bell was chosen for the town site, and so Belmont began.

The railway was built in the year 1889. It came by way of Morris from Winnipeg and went to Brandon. Regular trains did not run until the spring and summer of 1890.



Within three years Belmont in name became in reality a thriving village with a boarding house, livery stable, blacksmith shop, a hardware, two general stores, station, section house, two large churches—Presbyterian and Methodist, who later at the time of Union came together, and a few dwellings. The English Church and its vicarage were built here in the late 90's.

Within the last twelve months there has been a further addition to Belmont's churches with the opening of the Pentecostal Chapel and the Pastor's residence. This church is affiliated with Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. In the 90's the acreage of already broken farm lands, grew larger. A farmer's elevator was built. In 1895 there was a record crop of grain, averaging 42 bushels of wheat to the acre. In 1899 a spur was built on the now Canadian Northern Line, west to Hartney and Virden.

Belmont became a railway centre. A coal dock, water tank and a round house was built. The spur became the main line. The Brandon train, a mixed train, was nick-named the Cannon Ball on account of its slower speed. Today the Brandon train goes down the Deloraine branch and back by way of Greenway.

Nine miles to the south of Belmont lies Pelican Lake, a body of water fifteen miles long by over a mile wide, situated in a deep wooded valley. In places the shore juts into the water making ideal summer resorts. The Y. M. C. A. from Brandon has camped on one of these points for many years. This point was bought by the Council of Strathcona and named "Mem-

orial Park". Another popular camping ground, Manhattan Beach, has recently been purchased by the Pentecostal Church and is used for summer camp meetings.



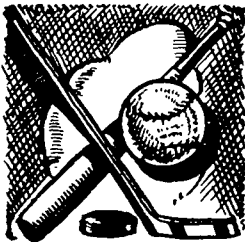
In 1905 a four-roomed brick school was built and a High school started. We now have a six roomed school, under consolidation. In 1903 a branch of the Bank of British North America opened up business in a small office on Main Street. The Bank was later built and was taken over by the Bank of Montreal. Three times fire destroyed the premises, but in spite of calamity the Bank rebuilt. A stucco building now stands

on the old site. A municipal telephone system was built in 1909. Roads were improved upon until today, we have just completed an all weather highway, from east to west, a part of the Jordan-Minto road on which there is a daily service by bus to and from Winnipeg.



In 1909 a Silver Band started, which played through the years. In 1910 a creamery was built by share holders of the district. This enterprise has prospered and the managers have won many trophies at the Provincial and Dominion fairs. In 1927, a fine new brick United Church was built, on the site of the Presbyterian Church, incorporating the old structure in the new.

The Council has presented to the church and installed a 1000 lb. bell, which has been a town bell for 40 years.



In 1946, a new Memorial rink was built and paid for by the local citizens and farmers. It is supplied with a public address system, and there is room for all to skate and curl. In the summer time the building is used for serving suppers, amateur evenings, etc. The tractor and the combine figure largely on the farms today. The district is noted not only for the quality of grain produced each year, but also for its live-

stock shipped each month. Electricity on the farm will follow the electricity we now have in the town. Nine miles west, is the Ninette Sanatorium, which assimilates some of the dressed poultry and produce from the farms.





In Belmont besides the buildings already mentioned, there are:—four implement shops, three garages, three general stores, five service stations, three cafes, hardware, undertaking, and bake shops, drug store, Doctor's office, barber shop, pool room, blacksmith, and printers' shop. The latter prints the weekly 'Belmont News.' There are also a ladies rest room, the Fire Hall, a harness and repair shop, library, telephone building, Council chamber, hotel, lumber yard office, the omnibus terminal, and two grain elevators.

Old timers who came in the 80's are Malcolm Matheson, 93, who came in '82. Mrs. Jas. Williamson, came in '81. Roger Brown, Charles Cannon, Thos. Wilson, Martin Watson, Mrs. John Chambers, Mrs. John Horrocks, Oliver Haig, Walter Vincent, Walter Sykes, Frank Sparks, now of Vancouver, who started a hardware store here in 1894, and Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Matchett. Others who came in the 90's were Mrs. Adam Campbell and Mrs. John Hall who is now in her 93rd year. Mrs. Torfason, now in her 91st year, and Mrs. Colin McGill. Later arrivals were, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Goodbrand, Mr. James Castell, now at the coast, who came just at the turn of the century, Roy Gowing and Dr. W. F. Stevenson.

## *"Clean Sons to Give"*

These tall young sons,  
Each straight as any pine,  
Could they have always been yours and  
mine?  
I knew some day that we must share  
them,  
But now today, they are gone.  
But oh, I am so glad  
That we have had  
Small sons to stoop to,  
Tall sons to reach to,  
Clean sons to give,  
That other mothers' sons may live.

Written by a courageous Kentucky mother, upon being notified of her own son's death and wishing to comfort her friend and neighbor who, she knew, was about to receive similar bad news from the front.

## *In Grateful Tribute To Six Gallant Sons*

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Six times during the Second World War, Belmont and district homes were saddened by the news that a son had been numbered among the casualties of war.

The names of these gallant young men will live forever in the memories of this area. They were:—

**Merton L. McClay**

**Donald McLeod**

**Thomas Stevenson**

**Jack Venier**

**Geordie Money**

**Ivan A. Weir**

Words are futile things to express sympathy for the bereaved families. It was of such as these that Winston Churchill spoke when he paid that fine tribute to the men of the Empire and Commonwealth . . . "Never in the realm of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few." Five of the six were in the R. C. A. F. One of them, Geordie Money was in the army.

## **F. Sgt. Merton L. McClay**



**FLT. SGT. MERTON LAWRENCE McCLAY**, son of Mr. and Mrs Thos. McClay, of Jordon, Manitoba, enlisted in the R.C.A.F. at Winnipeg, in October, 1941. Before joining the forces he was farming in the Mount Hope district on his father's farm.

His training was received at Brandon and at No. 3 Bombing and Gunnery School at Macdonald, Manitoba. He went overseas in November, 1942. On his 18th flight into Germany in a Halifax bomber, Merton was reported missing in action, August 31st, 1943. This was on a flight over Berlin. He was buried on September 2nd at Saerbeck, Germany.



## **Sgt. Donald M. McLeod**



**SGT. DONALD MELVIN McLEOD, Reported missing May 4th, 1943,** son of Mr. and Mrs. John McLeod, of Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in the spring of 1940. He had been engaged in farming.

His training was received at Brandon, Regina and Calgary Wireless School. He went overseas in January, 1941, and served with the Coastal Command in England. Donnie was reported missing and later presumed lost.

## **LAC Thomas Stevenson**



**L.A.C. THOMAS GERALD STEVENSON**, youngest son of Dr. and Mrs. W. F. Stevenson, of Belmont, enlisted with the R.C.A.F. at Brandon, in July, 1941. Before joining the airforce, Tom had graduated from Grade XII at United College, Winnipeg.

After completing his manning depot training at Brandon, Tom took his I.T.S. instruction at Regina. While training at No. 14 E.F.T.S. he was accidentally killed on the 30th of October when the Tiger Moth aircraft he was piloting collided with another machine.

Thomas Stevenson was buried in Belmont cemetery following funeral services in Belmont United Church conducted by the Rev. J. B. Pearson. Comrades from the R.C.A.F. acted as pallbearers during the military funeral.

## **W. O. Jack Venier**



**W.O. AIR GUNNER JACK VENIER**, son of Mrs. A. Venier, of 561 Beverley St., Winnipeg, joined the R.C.A.F. in January, 1942. He had been employed at God's Lake Gold Fields. His education was received at Belmont.

He graduated as air-gunner at Macdonald in October, 1943, and then went to Regina. While over Germany in a Halifax Bomber, his plane was hit and it fell into the English Channel. Nine hours later he was picked up. He had been wounded and developed a cold and became ill in an English hospital. He arrived home on the hospital ship Lady Nelson in July, 1944. Jack was sent to the St. Boniface sanatorium where he died on the 22nd of April, 1945.

His widow, Mrs. Viola Venier and son Jack, live at Gimli.

## **L. Cpl. Georgie Money**



**L/CPL. GEORDIE MONEY**, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Money, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army in January, 1942, at Winnipeg. He had worked on the farm with his father and mother and sisters. Two sisters, Aileen and June, attend high school while Francis is married (Mrs. Roy Preston, Carman).

His training was received at Shilo, Portage la Prairie, Woodstock, and Winnipeg. He went overseas in 1943 and saw England, Scotland, France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany. Geordie was wounded on the eighth of March, 1945 and died on the ninth. He is buried in a Canadian Cemetery in Holland.



## **P. O. Ivan A. Weir**



**P.O. IVAN ARNOLD WEIR**, only son of Mr. and Mrs. John Weir, of Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted with the R.C.A.F. in May, 1942, at Winnipeg. Before joining the Airforce, Ivan was studying at the University of Manitoba.

After taking the Manning Depot training at Brandon, he went to Regina for his I.T.S., Mossbank for his Elementary, and he received his Air Bomber wings at Pearce, Alberta. He went overseas in April, 1943, and was engaged in many air operations over Europe. His crew was first class reserve. He was commissioned as a Pilot Officer on April 22nd, 1944, but he was reported missing on April 24th, and later presumed dead. On his first operational trip, Ivan became a fully qualified member of the Caterpillar Club when he was forced to make his successful parachute jump.

Besides his mother and father, Ivan leaves two sisters at home, Jean and Ruth.

## *In His Majesty's Forces*

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The Belmont Committee has gone to considerable trouble to try to trace each and every veteran from this district. The difficulty has been however to keep track of their movements after demobilization. In the following pages therefore are given the pictures and story of as many as possible of the complete list of veterans. Some have both pictures and story, some have story and no pictures. It may be that some have changed their occupation and their residence since these details were first obtained. Behind the whole book however, is the desire to present an overall picture of the noble part the veterans of Belmont and district played in World War II.

Many of those whose pictures appear in these pages have been overseas for years, others remaining in Canada, but all made the sacrifice of giving up their homes, leaving friends and loved ones, and of putting themselves entirely at the disposal of their country in time of war.

As we glance through these pages and look into the faces of these young folk who fought for Canada, we cannot help but remember the contrast between their lot in the services, and ours at home; their danger and our safety; their physical hardships and our comforts.

This booklet, we feel, will have served a useful purpose if it brings us more directly to a realization of our indebtedness to those whose pictures appear on these pages.

## Lieut. Margaret Alcock



**LIEUT. MARGARET ALCOCK**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Alcock, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the C.W.A.C. in July, 1944. Before enlisting, Margaret was on the teaching staff of Belmont Consolidated School. Her basic training was completed at Kitchener, Ontario in September. While attached to No. 48 Admin. Unit, Ottawa, she was appointed corporal. In June, 1945, she returned to Kitchener to take advanced corps training.

Entering officers' training corps in July, 1945, she graduated as a 2/Lt. on September 12th. Her next posting was to No. 31 Admin. Unit, Prince Rupert B.C. When that unit disbanded she was attached to No. 30 Admin. Unit at Nanaimo. She received her discharge in Ottawa, June, 1946.

## **Sgt. Cyril Astley**



**SGT. CYRIL ASTLEY**, son of Mrs. F. A. Bryer of Winnipeg, enlisted in August, 1942. Prior to enlistment he was employed by the Bank of Montreal, Belmont branch.

He took basic training at A4, Brandon. For the remainder of his service he was attached to District H.Q., M.D. 10, Winnipeg. His discharge was received at Winnipeg in January, 1946.

Cyril is again in the banking business at Belmont, where he lives with his wife Donalda (nee Maxwell) and two sons, Jimmie and Bobbie.



## Telegrapher D. E. Bennett



**TELEGRAPHER D. E. BENNETT**, enlisted in the Navy at Winnipeg in July 1942 having previously been farming for four years. He received basic training at Winnipeg and Toronto and then saw service at St. Hyacinthe, Que., until October 1943. He was in the U.S.A. from November 1943 to January 1944, and then went to Bermuda, the Azores, and up to Scotland in March 1944. In 1945 he returned to Canada by frigate and received his discharge at Winnipeg on June 22nd, 1945. He then began studying for his Bachelor of Arts degree and has the Ministry as his object.

## **Gunner Paul Bjornson**



**GNR. PAUL BJORNSON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gustave Bjornson, joined the army at Portage la Prairie, February 6th, 1942. He had been employed at home on the farm.

After training at Portage and Winnipeg, he went overseas in April, 1942. Serving with the 1st Canadian Division, he saw action in England, Sicily and Italy. In June, 1944, he developed diphtheria with complications. Invalided home via England he returned in February, 1945, and was discharged in July.

He married Joy Williamson of Wimbledon, England, and he has now returned to England with his wife and son.

## **Stoker 1st Class J. Box**



**STOKER 1st CLASS JAMES BOX**, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Box of Belmont, enlisted in the R.C.N.V.R. at Winnipeg in September, 1943. He worked at Box Brothers Hardware, Belmont, before joining the services.

His duty took him to Esquimalt and he served on board H.M.C.S. Kelowna for 14 months. He cruised around the Northern Pacific from Victoria to Queen Charlotte Islands and Prince Rupert. For six months he attended the boom defences of Esquimalt harbour. He received his discharge from H.M.C.S. Chippewa, Winnipeg, October, 1945.

He is back working for his old firm and lives in Souris with his wife and three children.

## **A.B. Seaman Wendell Bradford**



**A/B SEAMAN WENDELL BRADFORD**, son of Mrs. Thos Bradford, of Ninette, Man., joined the navy at Winnipeg on June 15, 1943.

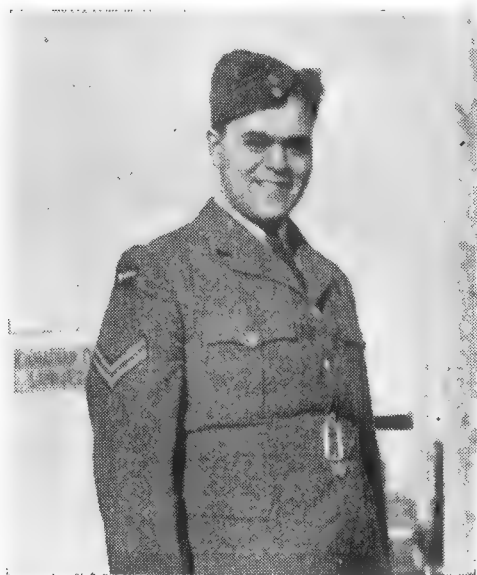
He served on the "Nabob" at the time it was torpedoed. Through prolonged exposure to icy seas he developed T.B. due to the fact that he had just come out of the hospital after pneumonia. He became a patient in Ninette Sanatorium in November, 1944.

Before enlisting Wendell worked for the Canadian News Co., Winnipeg, Man. He took his basic training in Winnipeg from June 15 to August 1, 1943. He was stationed at Esquimalt, B.C., August to October, and at Comox, B.C. in October and November.

He crossed the seas to Scotland in November and served on the Corvette Mimico. Was transferred to the Air Craft Carrier H.M.S. Nabob.

He returned to Canada in October 1944, on the Queen Elizabeth, via New York and Halifax, and back to Winnipeg, "on leave." He received his discharge at Ninette Sanatorium on January 25, 1945.

## Cpl. G. A. Briscoe



**CPL. GERALD A. BRISCOE**, son of Mrs. John Briscoe, Belmont, enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in October, 1941. He had been employed as a clerk-manager by Mr. Dalrymple, of Deloraine.

Commencing his service in Winnipeg, he soon moved on to Toronto for basic training and from there to Trenton until January, 1942. From there he was posted to No. 7 Equipment Depot, Winnipeg and before going overseas, served at Trenton again, Dauphin and Moncton. Crossing the Atlantic on the Aquitania, he landed in Scotland during the month of February, 1945. He went to Bournemouth, Hants, until April, 1945, then to Weeton, Lancs., to Police School, and from there, to No. 5 District, London.

He returned to Canada in May, 1946, on the Ile de France. His discharge was received in Winnipeg in June, 1946.

At present he is assistant manager of the Hudson Bay Post at Hudson, Ont.

Gerald married Lillian Smith of Deloraine. There is one little girl, Susan Jane.

## **Pte. Royce D. Budd**



**PTE. ROYCE DOUGLAS BUDD**, son of Mr. Douglas Budd, Somerset, Manitoba, enlisted in the army in February, 1942, at Winnipeg. Royce was doing farm work at Belmont, before entering the services.

He received his basic training with the Winnipeg Field Artillery and went overseas in April, 1942. While in England he spent a year with the artillery and then transferred to the Army Service Corps. He was with 1st Canadian Army Headquarters in France, Belgium, Holland and part of Germany. He returned to Canada on the Queen Elizabeth in October, 1945 and was discharged on December 10th, of the same year.

Royce is now doing carpenter work. He and his wife Hazel and daughter Sandra Lynn reside at Belmont, Manitoba.

## Leading Wren D. M. Butler



**LEADING WREN DOROTHY M. BUTLER**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Butler of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the W.R.C.N.S. in May 1943. Prior to enlistment she was in the employ of the Singer Sewing Machine Co., in Winnipeg, as a bookkeeper.

Her basic training was taken at Galt and on May 29th, she left for Ottawa to do duty in the chart room at H.Q. From there she was posted to St. Hyacinthe and at H.M.C.S. Lynal School, was graduated as a 1st Class Cadet. Other Canadian cities in which she served were: Halifax, Vancouver, Ottawa, again, and finally she was returned to Halifax.

Arriving overseas in November, 1944, she was posted to H.M.C.S. Niobe, in Scotland. In London, she served on the staff of Canadian Naval H.Q. At Paris France, she had an extended course and when she returned to London was promoted to Leading Wren..

After her discharge, May 14th, 1946, in London, England, she took a position in the Civil Service with the Canadian Naval Mission overseas. She has since married Andrew Urquhart and resides in Belmont.

## **Stoker 1st Class C. Campbell**



**STO. 1ST CLASS CHARLES CAMPBELL**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Campbell of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the R.C.N.V.R. in May, 1943, at Saskatoon.

Prior to his enlistment, Charles had been employed with the Hudson Bay Smelting Co. at Flin Flon. He entered his navy training at Winnipeg with H.M.C.S. Chippawa and later served on the Cornwallis, Stadacona, and in January, 1944, he went overseas on the Louis Pasteur. Here he was posted to the Niobe. H.M.C.S. Sioux became his ship in April, 1945, at the Isle of Wyte, and Scapa Flow was his home base for 14 months. He operated off Norway for five months prior to "D" day. For 27 days his ship fought in the invasion and then returned to Norway to convoy ships to Murmansk.

He was discharged in November, 1945. On March 19th, 1946, he married Edith McDonald at Belmont. He is at present employed operating maintainer for the Municipality of Belmont.



## **Pte. James E. Chapman**



**PTE. JAMES E. CHAPMAN**, son of the late Mr and Mrs. O. W. Chapman of Morris, Man, enlisted in the army at Winnipeg, September 12th, 1939. He was a railwayman who had his home at Belmont.

Attached to the Winnipeg grenadiers, he left for Kingston, Jamaica, in May, 1940. His regiment was stationed here for 16 months, and returned to Canada in the fall of 1941. In October, 1941, the Grenadiers landed in Hong Kong. He fought in the defence of this empire outpost but the British and Canadians capitulated to overwhelming numbers of Japanese on Christmas Day, 1941.

He died while a prisoner of war at Hong Kong, in August, 1942. He is survived by his widow (nee Vida Timmins) and four children, Margaret (Mrs. D. Turner), Boissevain; Beulah, Shirley and Jimmie of Belmont.

## **Pte. Earl M. Cline**



**PTE. EARL MATHESON CLINE**, son of Mrs. and the late Mr. Louis Cline, of Belmont, joined the army in March, 1941, at Calgary. His pre-service occupation was farming and truck driving at Turner Valley oil fields.

Earl spent two months at Vernon and three months at Brandon. In October, 1941, he went overseas and was stationed at Borden, England. When "D" Day arrived, June 6th, he landed in France. On June 30th, he was wounded and brought to a hospital in England. He returned to Canada in November, 1944, on the Hospital ship Alba. His discharge was obtained in March, 1945.

Since his overseas service, Earl has married Miss Clara Yoe of Belmont. He is now at Winnipeg working as a truck driver.

## **Pte. Henry Boyd Cline**



**PTE. HENRY BOYD CLINE**, son of Mrs. and the late Mr. Louis Cline, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army at Winnipeg, January 8th, 1942. He had been engaged in farming at Belmont.

Boyd had trained at Brandon and Portage la Prairie but was discharged in April, 1942, due to ill health.

He is draying at Belmont, and also operates a tractor in field work.

## **Gunner Jack L. Cooper**



**GNR. JACK L. COOPER**, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Cooper, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, joined the army in 1941. Jack was only 15 when he enlisted and had been attending public school.

When he was at Halifax he saw the Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, Britain's famous wartime leader. Jack went overseas in May, 1945, and became an anti-tank gunner.

Jack is now engaged in industrial work near Vancouver, B.C.

## **Cpl. Ewart V. Currie**



**CPL. EWART VINCENT CURRIE**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Currie, of Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the airforce in June, 1944. He had been employed on his father's farm.

He took his basic training at Swift Current, Sask., and technical training at St. Thomas, Ont. In January, 1945, he was posted to Marine Squadron at Dartmouth, and worked on repairing ships. Here he received his discharge in May, 1946.

He has returned to a position on his father's farm.

## Wren Laura Darlington



**WREN LAURA DARLINGTON** (nee **Laura Lang**), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Lang, of Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the W.R.C.N.S. May 6th, 1943, at Winnipeg. She went in this service directly from Belmont High School.

Her basic training was received at Galt, Ont. She was drafted to Halifax in June, 1943 and to Prince Rupert, B.C., in May, 1944. While at Halifax she received training as a Wren Coder. She obtained her discharge at Prince Rupert in August, 1945.

Laura is married to Fred Darlington and lives at Toronto, Ont. They have one little girl, Patricia Gale.

## **Lac. Benny R. Desrocher**



**L.A.C. BENNY R. DESROCHER**, son of Mr and Mrs. V. Desrocher, of Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the airforce on November 11th, 1942, at Winnipeg. He had been attending school at Belmont.

He served at Brandon, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Fort Nelson for 10 months, Smith River, Estevan for six weeks, and on the North West Staging Route. His discharge was obtained in Winnipeg, November 29th, 1945.

He was working for the War Assets Corp. at Neepawa, Man., but is now in Winnipeg, with the Empire Wall Paper.

He married Ruth Phillips of Winnipeg, November 18, 1947, and they now live at Bartello Court, Home St., Winnipeg.

## **Stoker 1st Class M. G. Durham**



**STO. 1ST CLASS MORRIS G. DURHAM**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Durham, Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the navy at Winnipeg, in June, 1942. He had been employed on his father's farm.

His basic training was received in Winnipeg and in October, 1942, he was posted to Esquimalt. In March, 1943, he was drafted to H.M.C.S. Gananoque shortly after arriving in Halifax. While with this ship he saw coastal convoy duty. Based at St. Johns, Newfoundland, from December, 1945, until July, 1946, it was not until August, 1946, that he returned to Canada for discharge. This he obtained from H.M.C.S. Chippewa, Winnipeg, in September, 1946.

Morris is again working on the farm at Belmont.



## Leading Cook W. H. Elgar



**L/COOK WILLIAM H. ELGAR**, son of Mrs. H. Elgar, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the navy at Winnipeg, in March, 1941. He had been employed as a baker at Belmont, Manitoba, before enlisting.

After basic training in Winnipeg, he joined the "Naden" at Esquimault, B.C. In September, 1941, he was drafted to H.M.C.S. Nitinat and in April, 1942, to the corvette Edmundston. While doing patrol duty on the west coast he witnessed the rescue of survivors from the first two ships torpedoed by the Japanese off Victoria, B.C.

In September, 1942, his ship sailed from Esquimault to Halifax where it did convoy duty to New York and Newfoundland. In the corvette Galt, he did escort duty from St. John's to Londonderry, Ireland. While his ship was being refitted he had three months in New York. In May, 1945, he was drafted to H.M.C.S. Stadacona. Bill was discharged in Winnipeg, October 25th, 1945.

He married Miss Margaret Nichol and has started a Bakery business at Carlyle, Sask. They have one son.

## **Pte. Ray Gall**



**PTE RAY GALL**, son of Mr. J. Gall and the late Mrs. Gall, enlisted in the Army at Winnipeg in April, 1940. He had previously been farming near Belmont. He received his basic training at Kitchener and Camp Borden. He was sent overseas in August of the same year and was stationed in Britain at Aldershot and Whitby. He took part in the invasion of Sicily and Italy serving in the Perth Infantry regiment. He later was moved into Western Europe. He returned to Canada on the Ile de France in August, 1945. He was discharged from the army in December of that year and returned to his former occupation of farming. He is married and has two sons.

## **Stoker 1st Class J. E. Giesbrecht**



**STO. 1/c JOHN E. GIESBRECHT**, son of Mr. J. and the late Mrs. Giesbrecht, of Morden, Manitoba, joined the navy at Saskatoon, in May, 1943. He had been employed by the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co. at Flin Flon.

He trained on the Cornwallis and served between Canada, the U.S.A. and Newfoundland. He was discharged at Winnipeg in September, 1945.

At present he is working for the John Davidson Co. engaged in plastering.

## P. O. Lloyd Gordon



**PETTY OFFICER LLOYD GORDON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Gordon of Belmont, was working in the mines at God's Lake when the war began. He enlisted in the R.C.N.V.R. at Winnipeg on September 1st, 1941. His first units were at Winnipeg, Victoria, and Halifax. Then he joined H.M.C.S. Hamilton, and for one year was on convoy work to Newfoundland. This was followed by four months training at a mechanical school at Halifax. He rose to the rank of Petty Officer and then went to England on patrol work with H.M.S. Newfoundland. He came back to Canada on a hospital ship, and then boarded a Canadian cruiser—the Uganda, and visited England, Gibraltar, Algiers, Egypt, Aden, India, Ceylon and finally Australia. From there he moved into the Pacific, to the Admiralty Isles, and the Phillippine Islands early in 1945.

His unit joined the British and U.S. fleets and they saw action at Iwa Jima, Formosa, and Ryucku Isles. They laid siege against the mainland of Japan two weeks before the end of the war. He returned to Canada and landed here two days before Armistice Day. He was discharged on October 15th in Winnipeg. At the present time he is the Massey-Harris Agent at Baldur, Man. On November 7th, 1945 he married Christine Johnson of Baldur. They have a little boy, Allan.

## **LAC. James L. Gordon**



**L.A.C JAMES LORNE ("BABE") GORDON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Gordon, of Belmont, Manitoba, left his mining job at Flin Flon, to join the R.C.A.F. in October, 1942.

His initial training was taken at No. 2 T.S., Brandon and then he took a wireless air gunner course at No. 3 Wireless School. After seven months training here, and two weeks before his graduation, he was discharged in November, 1943, due to ill health.

At present he is employed by Massey Harris and Imperial Oil at Belmont, where he and his wife Rene and young son Brian now live.

## **Sgt. John S. Gordon**



**SGT. JOHN STEWART GORDON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Gordon, of Belmont, joined the R.C.A.F. at Winnipeg, in December, 1939. Prior to enlistment he was in the employ of the John Deere Co., Winnipeg.

He was stationed at Rockcliffe until February, 1940, when he went overseas on the Duchess of Bedford. He spent five months at Salisbury Plains and then went to Oldham, Hants, for two years. He had a three month course on installation of radar equipment at London. Stewart returned to Canada on the Queen Mary in September, 1942. He had experienced much of the "Blitz" in England. When the German invasion threat was on, his barracks had been ordered on the alert.

After another spell of duty at Rockcliffe he became an inspector of aircraft at No. 9 Repair Depot, St. Johns. He was discharged in Winnipeg in January, 1945 and now operates a garage at Belmont.

## **Cpl. Borrett Gowing**



**CPL. BORRETT GOWING**, son of Mr. and the late Mrs. R. B. Gowing, of Belmont, Manitoba, trained in the Royal Winnipeg Rifle, N.P.A.M. in 1940. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in May, 1941. Prior to joining the airforce, he was attending school and working in the Belmont Creamery.

He served as an instructor in high altitude decompression chambers and was posted to the following stations: Brandon, Winnipeg, Edmonton, High River, Trenton, Regina, Halifax, Victoriaville, P.Q.; Lachine, Calgary, and he was discharged on January 27, 1945.

Borrett is now working with his brother Raymond in their store in Belmont.

Borrett married Montez Low of Calgary. There is one little girl, Beverley Dianne.

## **Sgt. G. R. Gowing**



**SGT. G. RAYMOND GOWING**, (Equipment "A" R.C.A. F.), son of Mr. and the late Mrs. R. B. Gowing, of Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the airforce in December, 1940. He had been employed as branch manager with the Manitoba Co-Op. Poultry Marketing Association, Winnipeg.

Raymond graduated from No. 1 Equipment and Accountancy Training School, St. Thomas, and was then posted to No. 10 S.F.T.S., Dauphin, with the advance party and was there until disbandment in July, 1945. From Dauphin he was posted to Neepawa. He was discharged in January, 1946.

After his release from the services, he was employed as Plant Clearance Inspector with the War Assets Corp. Warehouse, at Neepawa. At present he owns and operates "Arcade Grill," Belmont. On May 23rd, 1942 he married Eileen Pearson of Belmont. There are three children, Chauna Lynn and the twins, Ronald Blake and Donald Blain.



## **L. A. C. Wesley D. Graham**



**L.A.C. WESLEY D. GRAHAM**, son of Rev. and Mrs. H. E. Graham, formerly of Belmont and now of Oak River, Manitoba, trained with the airforce while a student at United College. He joined the active service at Brandon, in June, 1943, and served with the R.C.A.F. at Regina, Prince Albert, finally with No. 12 S.F.T.S. at Brandon. He received his discharge from this service in December, 1944.

In February, 1945, Wesley enlisted in the army at Winnipeg. He trained with the Canadian Signals at Vimy Barracks, Kingston, Ontario. He was accepted as a volunteer for the Pacific Force, but the end of war came before this division was used.

His discharge was received in Winnipeg, October 4th, 1945, and he has returned to his studies at United College.

## **Sgt. Melvin G. Hall**



**SGT. MELVIN G. HALL**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Hall, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the R.C.A.F. at Winnipeg, in November, 1942. He had been employed on his father's farm.

He trained at Winnipeg, Vancouver, Three Rivers and received his air gunner badge at Mount Jeuliet, Quebec. He went overseas in March, 1944 and arrived home on the Ile de France, Christmas Day, 1944.

After Melvin received his discharge in February, 1945, he returned to Belmont where he is engaged in farming. After returning he married Jean Hodgkinson of Belmont. There is one little girl, Joan.

## Petty Officer E. H. Harrison



**PETTY OFFICER ELMER (FUZZ) H. HARRISON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Harrison, of Belmont, enlisted in the R.C.N.V.R. in November, 1940. Before entering the forces, he was working in a grocery store at Starbuck, Manitoba.

After receiving his basic training at Esquimalt he did seven months coastal patrol on the H.M.C.S. Santa Marie. He was next drafted to H.M.C.S. Sans Puer, a reconverted yacht, given to the navy by the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland. He was then posted to Esquimalt wireless station and later opened a radio station at the R.C.A.F. base at Coal Harbour. At St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, he had a Leading Telegraphy course. Aboard H.M.C.S. Battleford he did convoy duty in the North Atlantic. In January, 1945, he returned to St. Hyacinthe for a Petty Officer course. He was an instructor here until the end of the war. He was discharged in September, 1945.

Elmer is now a partner in Harrison's Store, Belmont. He has married Phyllis Thompson of Belmont.

## **A. B. Seaman Howard Jenkins**



**A/B HOWARD JENKINS**, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Jenkins, of Belmont, enlisted in the navy in August, 1941, at Winnipeg. He had been employed for five years by J. W. Harrison and Sons and during the four months before joining up, by the Belmont Creamery.

He obtained his basic training at the West coast and then served on the following ships: Prince David, Miramichi, and Kelowna. In April, 1945, he went to England and joined a Royal Navy ship, H.M.S. Loch-Alvie. He worked out of English ports to France, Gibraltar, Azores, Iceland, Norway, until V E-Day when he signed up for the Pacific. V J-Day arrived before he saw much action, however, and he returned to Canada on the troopship Acquatania in July, 1946. He was discharged at Winnipeg in November, 1946.

He has entered into partnership with his father in a store business at Bowsman, Man.

## **L. Cpl. Jack A. Jones**



**LANCE CORPORAL JACK A. JONES**, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Sam Jones of Belmont, enlisted in the Army. He went overseas and served with the No. 1 C.M.E.C., Royal Canadian Engineers. He obtained the rank of Lance Corporal. He was in the invasion of France and was wounded four days after D-Day. He spent seven weeks in hospital and later served in repair shops in England until the end of the war. On return to Canada and subsequent discharge he returned to his home district and began working in a garage with his brother. He is now working for the Ball Transfer Co. at Yorkton. He married Marguerite Reeves of Winnipeg. They have one little girl, Jacqueline.

## Craftsman Lionel Jones



**CFN. LIONEL JONES**, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. S. Jones, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army at Kingston in August, 1942. He had been employed by the General Electric at Peterboro, Ontario.

His early training was received at Peterboro and Calgary. In July, 1943, he went overseas and was stationed at Borden, in the Base work-shop. He returned to Canada on the Aquitania in February, 1946. His discharge was received at Kingston in March, 1946.

Lionel is now in the garage business at Killarney, Manitoba.

## **Bombardier W. L. Kinley**

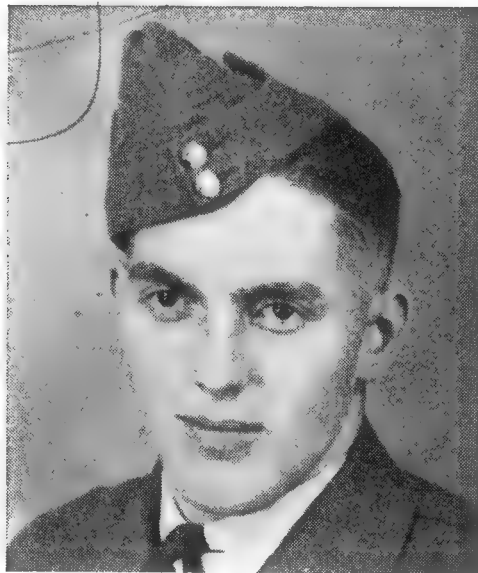


**BDR. WALTER LEROY KINLEY**, now of Gladstone, Man., son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Kinley, of Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the army at Winnipeg, in July, 1940. Before enlisting he was operating a trucking service.

After training at Winnipeg and Shilo, he went overseas in December, 1940, on the Capetown Castle. He served in England with the 3rd Field Regiment, R.C.A., and went to Sicily with them in July, 1943. In September of that year, he moved to Italy. He spent some time in an administrative course at Ismalia on the Suez Canal. From Italy he moved to Holland through France and Belgium. He returned to Canada on the Louis Pasteur in September, 1945, and was discharged in Winnipeg on November 12th, 1945.

Roy is now employed in a garage at Gladstone, Manitoba.

## **Sgt. John A. Kinley**



**SGT. JOHN ALEXANDER KINLEY**, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Kinley, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the R.C.A.F. in September, 1941, at Winnipeg. He had been employed at Gladstone in a trucking service operated by J. M. Ross.

He went to manning depot at Edmonton. At Calgary and Montreal he had a course in wireless and returned to Calgary to serve as instructor. Due to medical reasons he was grounded in 1942 and served until the end of the war in this capacity.

Jack received his discharge at Winnipeg in October, 1945. He is now an agent for Imperial Oil and J. I. Case Machinery. He also manages a trucking service.



## Cpl. Francis R. Kinley



**CPL. FRANCIS ROSS KINLEY**, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Kinley, of Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the R.C. A.F. in August, 1941. Prior to enlistment he was engaged in school teaching at Sherridon, Manitoba.

From Winnipeg, he was sent to the manning depot at Valcartier, Quebec, No. 8 S.F.T.S. at Moncton, and an Armament School at Mountain View, Ontario. He served as an armourer at No. 5 A.O.S., Winnipeg, No. 17 S.F.T.S. at Souris, No. 3 Repair Depot, Vancouver, and finally at Patricia Bay, B.C. He received his discharge at Winnipeg in July, 1945..

Ross now attends the University of Manitoba and is a science student. During the summer he is employed by the Manitoba Power Commission. While he stays in Winnipeg, he and his wife Shirley, stay at 431 Agnes St.

## **W. O. William R. Kinley**



**W.O. 1 WILLIAM RALPH KINLEY**, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Kinley, Belmont, Manitoba, joined the airforce at Winnipeg, in December, 1941. In 1940, Bill had left school and the farm and prior to enlisting he engaged in the trucking business.

He trained at Brandon, Macdonald, Saskatoon, Edmonton where he graduated as a navigator in December, 1942. In January, 1943, he went overseas aboard the "Andes." He did operational training at the following R.A.F. stations: Dumfries, Scotland, Assington, Nottinghamshire, and Abington and Stanton Harcourt in Oxfordshire. He then joined No. 15 Squadron in Bomber Command in Suffolk and finally 415 Squadron in Yorkshire. He returned to Canada in July, 1945, and was discharged at Winnipeg in September, 1945.

William is now a civil servant at Ottawa where he lives with his wife, Enid.

## **Pte. W. Laluk**



**PRIVATE W. LALUK**, son of Mr. Jos. Laluk of the Woodbine district and the late Mrs. Laluk, enlisted from Belmont early in the war. He was with A. Company of the P.P.C.L.I. and went overseas with them. He saw action in the Central Mediterranean forces and was severely wounded. On his return to Canada he received his discharge and is at present working in Winnipeg.

## **Pte. Howard B. Lambkin**



**PTE. HOWARD BURTON LAMBKIN**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lambkin, Belmont, enlisted in the army at Regina, in May, 1942. Before entering the forces, Howard was employed by the Union Packing Company of Regina.

He completed his basic training at Regina. He then volunteered for special gas trials at Suffield, Alberta, and then proceeded to Ottawa with the Postal Corps. He landed at Manchester in April, 1943. Howard left Greenwich for North Africa and from there sailed to Sicily, Italy and France. After serving in Belgium and Holland he returned to Canada on the Scythia. He arrived back in Regina on March 4th, 1946, and was discharged at No. 12 District Depot on March 13th, 1946. Howard is farming near Belmont now. On December 27, 1947 he married Nathelia Haig of Belmont.

## **Pte. Thomas O. Lambkin**



**PTE. THOS. OTTO LAMBKIN**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Lambkin, of Belmont, enlisted in the army at Winnipeg, in July 1942. He had been barbering at Saskatoon.

His early training was received at Portage la Prairie, Camp Borden, and Owen Sound. He landed in England in May, 1943. At Blackdown, Thomas transferred from the armoured corps to the Lord Strathcona Horse, tank driving. After training in England, Brighton and Winchester, he left on November 12th for Italy on the Southhampton. He had a stop at Algiers which lasted for two months. After landing at Naples, he crossed the Adriatic and then went into action. During his 16 months in Italy he served to help press the Hitler, Gustave and Gothic lines north to the Po Valley. In February, 1944, he saw action in Holland and Belgium, and continued to serve in Holland for seven months after the war ended. He returned to Canada by way of New York on the Queen Elizabeth. His discharge was received at Winnipeg, in March, 1946.

At present he is farming west of town.

## **Pte. Wilfred E. Lambkin**



**PTE. WILFRED F. LAMBKIN**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Lambkin, of Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the army at Winnipeg, in November, 1942. He had been employed by the Hudson Bay Mining Co. as a carpenter at Flin Flon.

He did his basic training at Portage la Prairie and then went to Winnipeg where he became a carpenter on the Home War Establishment. Later he moved to Shilo and then in March, 1945, he went with an overseas draft to Debert and stayed there till May. He then moved to Toronto where he worked on a hospital for six months. He was discharged at Winnipeg in February, 1946.

Wilfred is at present working as a carpenter at the Normal School at Tuxedo. He has a wife, Dorothy and a son, Claude.

## **L. A. C. Murray Lambkin**



**L.A.C. MURRAY A. LAMBKIN**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lambkin, Belmont, Manitoba, joined the R.C. A.F. at Winnipeg, in January, 1943. Prior to enlistment he was employed by the Hudson Bay Mining Co., at Flin Flon.

Murray received his basic training at Brandon while stationed there from the 9th of January, 1943, until March 21st, 1943. He arrived in Regina on March 22nd, 1943, and stayed here until January, 1945. Before receiving his discharge at Winnipeg, in December, 1945, he had short stays at Brandon and Yorkton.

Murray was accidentally killed in a hunting accident November 5th, 1947.

## Cpl. Lyle Lang



**CPL. LYLE LANG**, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Lang, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army in July, 1943. He had been a road maintainer for Strathcona Municipality.

He saw service in Canada at Brampton, Camp Borden, where he was an instructor for a year and advanced to the rank of corporal. He went overseas in March, 1945, and instructed in England until V.E. day and then went to Holland in June to join the Fort Garry Horse. In December, 1945, he returned to Canada arriving in February, 1946, aboard the Queen Elizabeth via New York. His discharge was received in March 1946.

He is now a truck driver at Belmont, where he lives with his wife and three children.



## **Pte. William J. Loney**



**PTE. WILLIAM JAMES LONEY**, son of Mrs. E. Loney, of Belmont, joined the army at Winnipeg in June 1940. He had been farming at Pine Creek.

He trained at Shilo until September, 1940 and then at Quebec until December, 1940. On Christmas day, 1940, he landed overseas and trained at Aldershot with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders. He returned as a guard when he escorted prisoners of war to New York. This was on the Queen Elizabeth and he docked in September, 1943. His discharge was received at Winnipeg, in January, 1944.

William now farms at Pine Creek.

## **Gunner Jack Lukiw**



**GNR. JACK LUKIW**, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Lukiw, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army at Port Arthur in October, 1942. He had been employed by the CNR.

After two months training at Port Arthur he went to Fort Garry for his basic and then he moved to A23 Halifax. After going overseas in June, 1943, he spent some time at No. 3 C.A.R.U. His next posting was to North Africa and then to Italy for 16 months. Here he spent two months in the 1st Canadian General hospital. He then went to France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. His return was made on the Louis Pasteur and he arrived back in Canada in September, 1945. His discharge was received in Winnipeg on November 14, 1945. At present he is working for the CNR.

## Gunner Harry Lukiw



**GNR. HARRY LUKIW**, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Lukiw, of Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the army at Winnipeg, in April, 1943. He had been farming and doing harness making in his father's shop.

At Winnipeg he did basic training and then moved to Camp Borden for four months and trained with the armoured corps. In November, 1943, upon arriving overseas, he transferred to the R.C.A. He was at Blackdown, Sussex, for five months and then went to Brighton for two months. From there he went to France, then to Belgium for four months and then to Arnheim for four months. In February he was in the push to Clieve and Emmerich, and in an attempt to "Cross the Rhine." He was in the occupational army all during the summer of 1945 at Wilhelmshaven. He returned to Canada on the Queen Elizabeth in January, 1946, and received his discharge on February 25th of that year.

Harry is again engaged in his father's harness repair shop.

## **Cpl. Pauline A. Maloney**



**CPL. PAULINE ANNE MALONEY**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Maloney, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the R.C.A.F. in December, 1941. Before enlisting she had been attending Business College.

Her basic training was received at Dunnville, Ontario. She went overseas in November, 1943, and was posted to H.Q. in London. She returned to Canada on the Ile de France and was discharged at Winnipeg, in December, 1945.

She is now a comptometer operator at Winnipeg

## **CFN. Albert V. Marshall**



**C.F.N. ALBERT VICTOR MARSHALL**, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Marshall, of Brandon, Manitoba, enlisted in the army in June, 1942. He had been engaged in a garage business at Ninette.

His early army training was received at Victoria, Nanaimo and Kingston. He went overseas in November, 1943, and served in England until June, 1944. He then crossed the channel and was in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He returned to England in August, 1945, and reached Canada in September after crossing on the Duchess of Bedford which docked at Halifax. He was discharged at Winnipeg in November, 1945.

Vic is now at Brandon working in a garage. He lives with his wife Irene, and daughter Dianne.

Vic received his schooling at the Belmont Consolidated School. The Marshall family lived in the town for many years.

## **Pte. Philip E. Martin**



**PTE. PHILIP E. MARTIN**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Martin, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the airforce at Winnipeg, in September, 1943. Prior to enlistment he was attending High School.

He was posted to Brandon Manning Depot and attended wireless school for five months. He went to an operational station at Greenwood Nova Scotia, for six months, and then he was posted to Moncton and Debert. In November, 1944, he transferred to the army Infantry Corps. In January he went to Halifax and then to Ft. Garry, Winnipeg, to complete his basic training. Then he had ten weeks advanced training at Camp Shilo. He joined the Pacific Force and had training at Macdonald and Shilo. He received his discharge in July, 1946, after having six months industrial leave.

After attending a veterans' school at Brandon he joined the C.N.R.

## **F. O. Stewart Matchett**



**F.O. STEWART MATCHETT**, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Matchett, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the R.C.A.F. at Winnipeg in November, 1940. He had been farming at Baldur.

He first was sent to No. 2 Manning Pool at Brandon and then No. 1 at Toronto. He trained for an aero engine mechanic at No. 12 S.F.T.S. at Brandon until March 1942. Remustered to Flight Engineer he completed a tour on Coastal Command with Sunderland Flying Boats. He then had a tour on Bomber Command with Halifax bombers. He served with the Transport Command also. When stationed overseas he was in England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland and worked from England on transport through France, Malta, Egypt, Iraq, India, and Ceylon.

He returned to Canada in June, 1945, and received his discharge at Winnipeg in August, 1945. He was Field Supervisor for Veterans Land Act for Winnipeg and District for a year. He and his wife Lynn, and baby girl, Beverley, now live on the old home farm near Baldur.

## Air Mechanic J. L. Matheson



**A.M.L. James L. MATHESON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Matheson, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the R.C.N.V.R. at Winnipeg, in July, 1944. He was attending Belmont High School prior to enlistment.

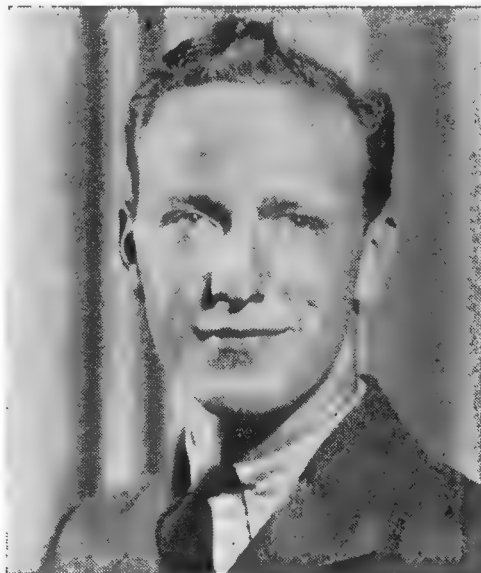
After early training in Winnipeg, he went East to train on H.M.C.S. Cornwallis. He went overseas in December on the Louis Pasteur and took an eight month course in electricity and aircraft instruments. He had worked on radar on H.M.C.S. Scotian, Halifax. James transferred to the fleet air arm as an air mechanic and served with operational squadron 826 in Northern Scotland and in November, 1945, at Fearn, Rosshire. He later transferred to 825 squadron aboard H.M.C.S. Warrior and it was on this ship that he returned to Canada in March, 1946.

James was stationed at the R.C.A.F. station at Dartmouth, N.S., but has returned to his home town, Belmont, and is in partnership in a local movie theatre and also owns an electric supply and repair shop on Main Street.

On July 8, 1947 he married Jean Thompson of Belmont.



## **Sgt. Earle W. Maxwell**

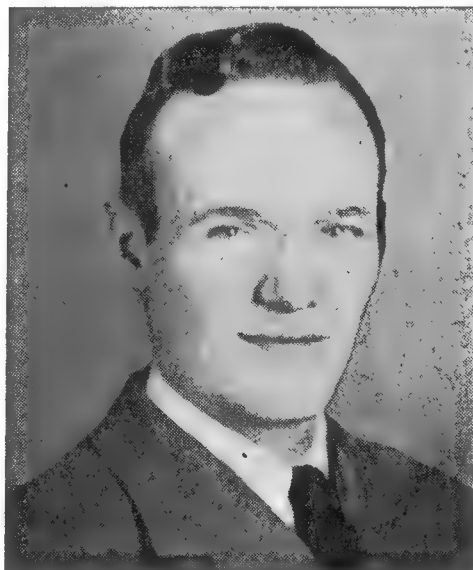


**SGT. EARLE W. MAXWELL**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Maxwell, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army in October, 1941. He was working on the home farm before enlisting.

His basic training was received at Portage la Prairie. While at Toronto he became a member of a demonstration squad touring the east and west coast and Newfoundland. After this he obtained his rank as Sergeant and became an instructor in the School of Artillery at Halifax. Earle served six months with No. 1 Infantry Training Battalion, Debert. At the close of the war he was taking an American weapon course in Toronto. He returned to Winnipeg in August and received his discharge in January, 1946.

Earle is in the bakery business at Ninette with his brother Murray.

## **L. A. C. Murray C. Maxwell**



**L.A.C. MURRAY C. MAXWELL**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Maxwell, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the airforce at Winnipeg, in February, 1942. Prior to enlistment he was employed by the City Dairy, Winnipeg.

He served at the following places in Canada: Brandon, February to April, 1942, then St. Thomas, Yarmouth, Sidney, N.S.; Torbay, Newfoundland, and Moncton, N.B. He returned for his discharge to Winnipeg, in September, 1945.

At present he is co-partner with his brother Earle, in a bake-shop at Ninette.

He was married to Gladys Wood of Ninette, February 17, 1943, at Yarmouth, N.S. They have one little boy, Garry.

## **L. A. C. Archie W. MacFarlane**



**L.A.C. ARCHIE WM. MacFARLANE**, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. G. MacFarlane, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the R.C.A.F. in July, 1943. He had been engaged in the printing business and worked in his father's office.

While in Canada, he trained at Toronto, Galt, Ont., Three Rivers, Que., Ottawa, and Moncton, N.B. He landed in England in April, 1945 and after a stay of three and a half weeks he went to Germany. From the 22nd of May, 1945, to February, 1946, he was with the air control disbandment unit. He returned to Canada on March 16th, on the Ile de France, and received his discharge in April.

He is again employed in the printing trade and has married Elsie Greer of Joggins, N.S. There is one son, David Ralph, and a daughter, Linda Greer.

## **L. A. C. Gordon MacFarlane**



**L.A.C. GORDON RALPH MacFARLANE**, son of Mr. and Mrs. David G. MacFarlane, of Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the R.C.A.F. at Winnipeg, in November, 1942. Prior to joining the forces he was employed by the Belmont Creamery Co.

After a period of service at Brandon Manning Pool he was posted to Landlines Western Air Command. He served in Prince Rupert, Charlotte Islands, Whitehorse, Y.T., and the greatest part of his time in the airforce was spent in the hinterland of B.C. and the Yukon. While in Montreal, he was under the Eastern Air Command. His discharge was obtained at No 1 Release Centre, Dartmouth, N.S., in October, 1945.

He is now an apprentice printer under D.V.A. in his father's printing shop.

## Cpl. W. H. McCutcheon



**CPL. WILLIAM HENRY McCUTCHEON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robt. McCutcheon, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army at Winnipeg, in January, 1943. He had been attending school at Belmont.

His basic training was received at Ft. Garry and then he moved to Shilo Camp for 13 months. He arrived in England in June, 1944, and eight days later in France. While serving with the Essex Scottish Regiment of Windsor, Ontario, in France, he was wounded on the 13th of August, 1944, and was returned to England on the 15th of August. He rejoined his comrades in Holland in November, 1945, and received his discharge at Winnipeg, in January, 1946.

William McCutcheon now lives at 1129 Redwood Avenue, Winnipeg, with his wife Marionne, and son Johnny. He is a taxi driver for Moore's Taxi.

## **A. B. Seaman Jack McGill**



**AB. SEAMAN JACK MCGILL**, son of Mrs. Bert McGill, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the R.C.N.V.R. at Winnipeg, in November, 1942. He had been farming on his mother's farm.

He served at Winnipeg on the "Chippewa" and then on the Naden at Esquimalt. At Halifax he went on board H.M.C.S. Frederickton. He did Escort duty for 18 months between Newfoundland and Londonderry. He took a refresher course at Cornwallis and served on the mine sweeper Kenora. At the end of the war he was in the Peregrin Barracks and was discharged in October, 1945.

Jack was married on October 29th, 1945 to Lillias Waldie of Cartwright and is now farming near Belmont. They have one child, Barrie.

## **Sgt. W. Roy McPhail**



**SGT. W. ROY McPHAIL**, Tisdale, Sask., son of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. McPhail of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the airforce in December, 1942. He was attending school at Belmont Consolidated.

He served at Lachine, Que., and also at Labrador, where he was stationed for six months. He finished his training as a bomber at Malton, Ont. His discharge was received in January, 1945.

Roy was employed as a bookkeeper with C. W. Lye and Son at MacGregor, but is now employed in the Bank of Montreal at Tisdale, Sask.

## **LAC. William H. Melville**



**L.A.C. WILLIAM H. MELVILLE**, son of Mrs. W. J. and the late Mr. Melville, of Boissevain, Manitoba,

He served at Brandon, Mountain View No. 6, and Macdonald, No. 3 B. and G. Schools. He arrived overseas on Christmas Day, 1943, and served as an armourer in England. He returned on the Queen Elizabeth in August, 1944, and received his discharge at Winnipeg in February, 1945.

William is now farming south of town. He is married to Margaret Maloney of the Mount Hope district. They have four children.



## Gunner J. Nicholson



**GNR. JAMES NICHOLSON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Nicholson, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army at Portage la Prairie, in April, 1941. Before he enlisted he was employed on his father's farm at Belmont.

Completing his basic training at Portage, Jim was then posted to Vancouver. Here he entered the Royal Canadian Artillery and was posted to Petawawa for further training. He left for overseas in March, 1945, and reached Holland in May. He then returned to Canada in 1945 on the Nieu Amsterdam. He was discharged in November, 1945. He engaged in farming for a year, and is now at Vancouver, B.C., working in a clothing factory.

## **Stoker 1st Class J. H. Nicholson**



**STO. FIRST CLASS JOHN HENRY NICHOLSON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Nicholson, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the navy at Winnipeg, in March, 1944. He had been employed on his father's farm.

He took basic training on the Chippawa. He then received postings to Catarqui, Kingston, Cornwallis and Naden. He was discharged at Esquimalt, B.C. in November, 1945.

At present he is engaged in farming on his father's farm in the Alma district, south and east of town.

## **CFN. Percy W. J. Pryke**



**CFN. PERCY W. J. PRYKE**, Belmont, Manitoba who enlisted in the army at Winnipeg, in December, 1942, had been employed at Belmont Garage as a motor mechanic.

He was stationed at Prince George, Victoria, and Vancouver with the R.C.O.C. In February, 1944, he transferred to R.C.E.M.E. as a driver mechanic with the 96 L.A.D. at Wainwright, Alberta. He also took part in the Polar Bear Exercises from November 1st, 1944, to June, 1945. In Northern B.C. he travelled from Prince George to Quesnel, Wells, Williams Lake, and Alexis Creek, testing vehicles and equipment for cold weather service. They camped and worked on vehicles in the open air. From June, 1945, until October, 1945, he was with the R.C.A.S.C. as a driver for the Pacific Force. He was discharged at Winnipeg, in February, 1946.

He is again employed at Belmont Garage.

## **Pte. William D. Rodgers**



**PTE. WILLIAM D. RODGERS**, son of Mr. and the late Mrs. H. Rodgers, of Graysville, Manitoba, enlisted in the army at Winnipeg, in February, 1945. He had been employed on the farm of Mr. Cecil Fargey, his uncle.

He took his basic training at Fort Garry and then moved on to Petawawa. He did guard duty at Lethbridge, Port Arthur and Winnipeg. He was discharged in March, 1946.

William is now doing farm help work at Belmont, Manitoba. His late mother was the former Marion Cummings of this district.

## **Pte. Paul Smorhay**



**PTE PAUL SMORHAY**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smorhay of Belmont left Grade XI of Belmont school to enlist in the Army at Winnipeg. He received training at Red Deer, Alta., and at Camp Shilo. He was finally discharged in the summer of 1945 at Winnipeg and is now working as a miner at the Creighton Mines, Sudbury, Ontario.

## **Sapper David A. Spring**



**SPR. DAVID ALEXANDER SPRING**, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Dave Spring, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army in July, 1940. He had been managing a farm for Mr. T. McGregor at Ninette.

He trained in Canada from July, 1940 until October, 1941. He went overseas then and spent three years working in hospitals in England, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He returned in August, 1945 on the Cameronian. David received his discharge in September, 1945.

He is now managing a farm recently bought from Mr. Peter Johnson, four miles east of Belmont. Dave married Miss Pearl Lambkin June 4th, 1946, at Belmont. There is one son, Carl.

## Signalman J. Spring



**SGMN. JAMES SPRING**, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Dave Spring, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army on January 15, 1942.

He trained at 102 Basic Training Centre, Fort William, Ont., also at Kingston, Ont., and Windsor, Nova Scotia. He went overseas June 15, 1944, to England, then Belgium, was wounded at the battle of Antwerp. He was taken to the British General Duffel Hospital between Antwerp and Brussels.

He was posted to the Signal Corps and served in France. He received his discharge in February, 1946, and is now farming near Belmont with Gwen, his wife, and Harold and Billie.

## **Pte. Cecil Stephenson**



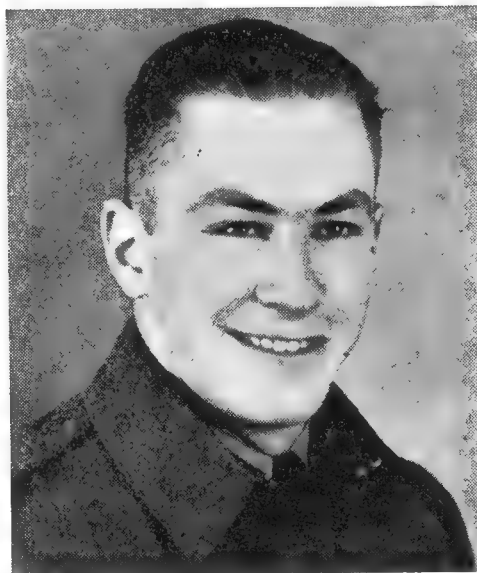
**PTE. CECIL STEPHENSON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Stephenson, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army at Winnipeg, in November, 1944. He had been engaged in farming at Belmont.

His training was received at Shilo Camp. In November, 1945, he was given his discharge.

He now farms in the Alma district with his wife E'Gwen and son Hugh.



## **Pte. Glenn S. Stephenson**



**PTE. GLENN S. STEPHENSON**, son of Mr and Mrs. Russell Stephenson, of Belmont, enlisted in the army at Winnipeg, in November, 1943.

Basic training was received at the 103rd C.I.(B)T.C. Fort Garry. He then moved to Shilo Camp where he was awarded a Driver Mechanic Course at Woodstock, and London, Ontario. In January, 1945, he arrived in England and in March he went to Calais, France. He joined the P.P.C.L.I. in Bloemendaal, Holland. His return to Canada was made on the Queen Mary via New York. He joined the Exercise Muskox in November and went to Churchill, Edmonton, Fort Nelson and returned to Winnipeg in May. He was discharged in July, 1946.

In May, 1944, he married Miss Evelyn Campbell. They farm now in the Alma district, with their two small children, Brian and Dixie Anne.

## **Capt. Harry C. Stevenson**



**CAPT. HARRY C. STEVENSON**, son of Dr. and Mrs. W. F. Stevenson, of Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the army at Winnipeg, in January, 1942. He had been attending Manitoba Medical College.

He served in the Winnipeg General Hospital, Calgary, Brockville, Deer Lodge Military Hospital, Montreal, Quebec City and Camp Borden with the R.C.A. M.C.

Harry was born at Belmont and received his public and high school training here. He was the first Belmont boy to graduate with a doctor's degree. He received his discharge from the army July 12, 1946, and is now engaged as a Municipal Doctor in the town of Minnedosa, Manitoba.

## **FO S. W. K. Stevenson**

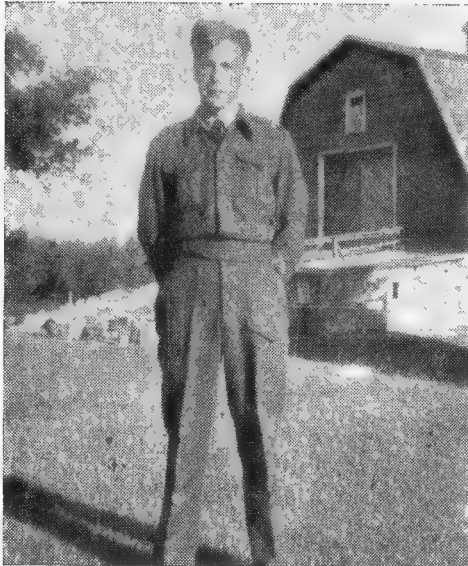


**F.O. S. W. KENNETH STEVENSON**, son of Dr. and Mrs. W. F. Stevenson, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the R.C.A.F. at Winnipeg, in August, 1941. Kenneth enlisted after completing his third year in Science at the University of Manitoba.

He was in the medical branch until December, 1942. He became a pilot on R.C.A.F. Coastal Command at Debert, N.S. then was transferred to Transport Command at Dorval, P.Q. From here he ferried aircraft to the United Kingdom, Africa, and India. He received a posting to Nassau and there did similar work. He returned to Canada in July, 1945, and was discharged at Winnipeg in September, 1945. He is now a student-at-law.

Kenneth was married in August, 1945, to Marjorie Horner of Miniota, Manitoba. They have one baby son, William Kenneth. They live at 229 Eugenie St., Norwood.

## Pte. Robert Struthers



**PTE. ROBERT STRUTHERS**, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Struthers, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army at Winnipeg, in January, 1945. He had been in 1st year engineering at the University of Manitoba.

He trained at Fort Garry, Shilo and Macdonald. He received his discharge at Winnipeg in October, 1945, and is again an engineering student.

## F. L. Dick Sutcliffe



**F/LT. DICK SUTCLIFFE**, son of Mrs. Sutcliffe now at the coast, and the late Major Sutcliffe, enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in November 1941. He completed his flying training at Dauphin and received his wings as pilot there in March 1943. He was sent overseas immediately. After completing operational training and taking part in some bombing trips from England, he went to North Africa in the spring of 1944. Thence he was moved to Italy. Flying from Italian bases he was shot down over Bulgaria in July 1944, and was injured in the knee when parachuting to the ground. He was held as a prisoner-of-war in Bulgaria for three months. He returned home in December 1944 and shortly afterwards received his commission. He was then posted to Patricia Bay, Vancouver Island where he received his discharge in October 1945. He then returned to civilian life and is now a student at the University of British Columbia at Vancouver. He is of course, a member of the Caterpillar club, having saved his life by parachuting to safety. His father, Major Sutcliffe, lost his life in the defence of Hong Kong and at one period of that bitter campaign was the officer in charge of the Canadian troops there.

## **LAC. Basil W. H Sykes**

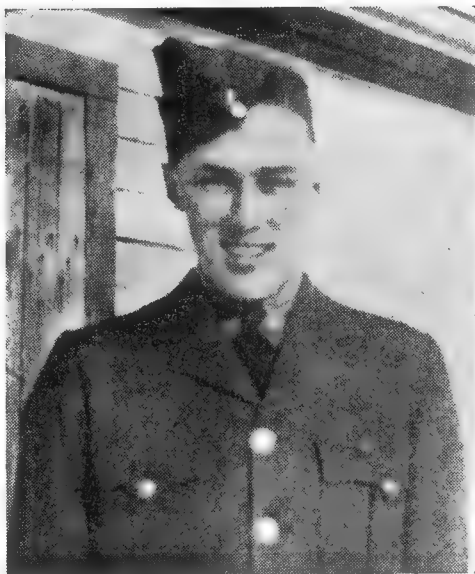


**L.A.C. BASIL WALTER HUGH SYKES**, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. B. Sykes, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the airforce at Winnipeg in December, 1941. He had been engaged in farming.

He was stationed at the manning pool from December until February and then at K.T.S., Trenton, from February until March. He was next posted to No. 8 R. D., Winnipeg and then overseas in July, 1942. He was employed doing administrative duties in various stations in the United Kingdom. He returned to this continent via New York on the Queen Elizabeth. Basil received his discharge at Winnipeg in June, 1945.

While overseas, Basil married his wife, Dorothy. He is now engaged in farming for himself. There are two children, Terry and Hubert, who in direct descent are great grandsons of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Sykes, Sr., of Belmont.

## **F. Sgt. G. E. Syms**



**FLIGHT-SGT. GORDON EDWARD SYMS**, son of Rev. Syms, now of Souris; Manitoba, joined the airforce at Winnipeg, in December, 1942. Prior to enlistment he was employed by the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co., of Flin Flon, Manitoba.

He received basic training at Brandon and Souris and initial training at Edmonton. He then took elementary training at Virden and service training at Souris. He became a staff pilot at Quebec City. He was discharged in April, 1946, at Winnipeg.

He is now a miner for the H.B.M. & S. at Flin Flon. On August 5, 1944, he was married to a Flin Flon girl, Miss Eileen Swedberg, at Quebec.

## **Pte. Alvin Thompson**



**PTE ALVIN THOMPSON**, son of Mr. Wm. and the late Mrs. Thompson, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army in March, 1942. He had been engaged in farming.

His training was received at Shilo, Portage la Prairie, Winnipeg, Aldershot, N.S., Petawawa, Halifax and Brandon. He was discharged in February, 1946.

At present Alvin is employed in trucking work, at Belmont, Manitoba.



## **L. A. C. Robert Watson**

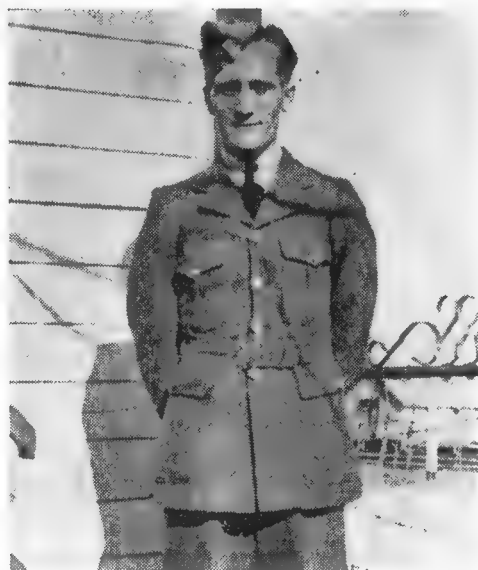


**L.A.C. ROBERT WATSON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Watson, Gladstone, Manitoba, joined the R.C.A.F. at Winnipeg in September, 1943.

He served at No. 12 S.F.T.S. at Brandon in the stores department. His discharge was obtained in the spring of 1946.

Formerly a manager of the Belmont Creamery, he married Miss Alice Embury, of Belmont. They have one little girl, Beverley. They have just recently started store keeping in Rose Isle, Man.

## Cpl. Francis H. Webster

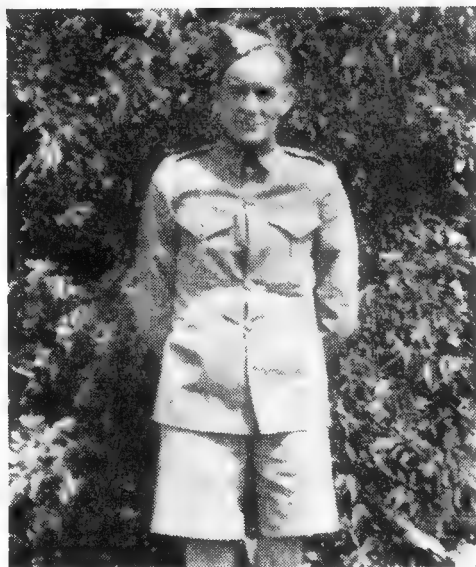


**CPL. FRANCIS H. WEBSTER**, son of Charles Webster, Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army at Winnipeg in April, 1942. He had been employed by San Antonio Gold Mines, Bissett, Manitoba.

He completed basic training at Fort Garry. When on an overseas draft, he was removed by a medical board, categorized and put on the staff of No. 10 District Depot, Winnipeg. He worked in the M.I.R. and then proceeded to Calgary in December, 1942, to train as a Medical Storeman. His course was completed in April, 1943, and he was transferred back to M.I.R. at Winnipeg, where he took charge of the medical stores of No. 10 D.D. He was discharged at Winnipeg in June, 1946.

Francis is again mining at San Antonio Gold Mines, Bissett, Man.

## **Pte. George Webster**

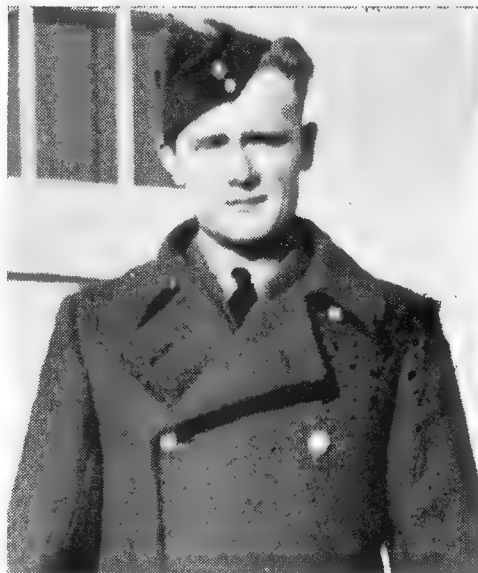


**PTE. GEORGE WEBSTER**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Webster, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army at Winnipeg, June 3, 1940. He had been a truck driver at Belmont.

George saw service with the 7th C.I.B.C., Royal Canadian Army Service Corps. He went to England in July, 1941. Then to France on D Day. Carpequet Air Port, Caen; Fallaise Gap, Leopold Canal, Belgium. Then went across bridge at St. Ogan Botche, Holland; next, Rischwold Forest, Germany. Then crossed the Rhine in March, 1945. Went through Cleave and Lear, 17 miles from Bressen when the fighting stopped.

Returned to Canada in July, 1946, he is now farming in the Delta district with Myrtle, his wife, and little girl Margaret.

## LAC. Ivan D. Webster



**L.A.C. IVAN DAVID WEBSTER**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Webster, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the R.C. A.F. in December, 1941, at Winnipeg. Before his enlistment, Ivan was employed by Webster's Transfer of Belmont.

He underwent Manning Depot training at Brandon and was then posted to Defoe, Sask., where he served from December till May, 1942. He completed his training at Mossbank, Sask. He went overseas in February, 1943, on the Empress of Scotland, which docked at Greenock, Scotland. He served with the 427 Squadron for three months at Croft and while there he remustered as an Air Engine Mechanic. The operational Bomber Squadron was moved to Leeming and from here he was sent to Middleton St. George, for posting back to Canada. He returned home on the Ile de France, arriving in Halifax June 16th. Following a 30 day leave at home, he reported at Dartmouth for training in the Pacific. He was discharged at Moncton on the 23rd of September, 1945.

Ivan is now employed at Belmont with the Webster Transfer.

## **Stoker S. G. Westbrook**



**STO. SAMUEL GILBERT WESTBROOK**, son of Mrs. S. Westbrook, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, joined the navy at Winnipeg in February, 1943. Prior to enlisting he was in the employ of G. McLean Co., Winnipeg.

He trained from February till May in Winnipeg and then in Cornwallis until July. He was stationed at Stadacona for a short time before going aboard the Annapolis. He did the triangle run on this ship, plying between Newfoundland, New York, Boston and Halifax. He also was on the Sioux and was at Dundurn for a month until he received his discharge. He was discharged at Winnipeg in September, 1945.

Gilbert rejoined the navy in April, 1946. On February 6, 1948 he married Yvonne Fobisher of Winnipeg.

## Wren Beryl Vigneux



**WREN BERYL VIGNEUX**, (nee Briscoe), daughter of Mrs. John Briscoe, Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the navy at Winnipeg, in May, 1943. She had been employed as night operator by the Municipality of Strathcona.

Beryl received her basic training on H.M.C.S. Conestoga. She was a Wren messenger on H.M.C.S. Stadacona from June to August, 1943. At St. Hyacinthe, she underwent six months training for telegraphist rating. After service on H.M.C.S. Bytown, working at Gloucester Naval Wireless Station as a telegraphist, she returned to Winnipeg. Her discharge was received here in August, 1945.

She was employed at the same work she had before joining the navy for a time. She is now living in Charleswood, Winnipeg.

## Lieut. Mabel Vincent



**LIEUT. MABEL VINCENT**, daughter of Mr and Mrs. W. Vincent, Vancouver, British Columbia, joined the army at Winnipeg in May, 1940. Before enlisting she was working at New York Orthopaedic Hospital.

She went overseas in June, 1940, and was stationed at Toplow Hospital, in England. In July, 1944, she went to France. She worked at No. 3 Casualty clearing Station and No. 6 Field Dressing Station at Caen, Dieppe, Montrean, Antwerp, Capellen, Tilburg, Almelo, Meppen, and started home from Embden, Germany. She came back to Canada on the Duchess of Bedford, in June, 1945, and was discharged at Nanaimo, in November.

Mabel was nursing in Vancouver, Shaunecy Hospital, for six months. Married in November, 1946, she is now Mrs. H. O. Watkins, and resides at Point Alberni, Vancouver Island.

## **Pte. Clarence S. Yeo**



**PTE. CLARENCE STANLEY YEO**, son of Mr. and the late Mrs. Thos. Yeo of Belmont, Manitoba, enlisted in the army at Winnipeg, in February, 1944. He had been working on the home farm.

He trained at Orillia, Ontario, and took advanced training at Camp Borden. He went overseas in December of 1944. After a few months he sailed for Ghent and then went through Holland and into Germany. He sailed for Canada on the Ile de France. He was discharged in May, 1946.

Clarence is now helping on a farm near Belmont.



## **Pte. Thomas . H. Yeo**



**PTE. THOMAS HENRY YEO**, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Yeo, of Belmont, Manitoba, who joined the army at Portage la Prairie, in January, 1942. He had been doing farm work before enlisting.

He had basic training at Portage la Prairie and then went to Camp Borden. He joined the 9th Canadian Armoured Corps. In July, 1943, until March, 1945, he served as a clerk at Fort Osborne. In August, 1945, he went to Shilo as a storeman. At present he is serving in the Ordinance Depot.

Shortly after enlisting he married Miss Ireland of Neelin. They have three children.

## **LAC. Russel Chambers**

**L.A.C. RUSSEL CHAMBERS**, son of the late Alex and Mrs. A. Chambers, entered the R.C.A.F. in September, 1943. Before enlisting he was employed with the Manitoba Power Commission at Brandon, Manitoba.

During his time in the airforce he served at St. Thomas, Macdonald, Brandon, No. 8 Repair Depot at Winnipeg, and Calgary. He had training as an aircraft electrician at Toronto and St. Thomas.

Russel was born south of Belmont and spent many years in the Alma district on the Thring farm. His father was killed in action during World War I.

Russell is married and has three children.

## **Gunner John Dalgleish**

**GUNNER JOHN DALGLEISH** son of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Dalgleish of Belmont, enlisted in the Army at Winnipeg in June 1941. He received training at Shilo, Portage la Prairie, and Winnipeg, and joined the Royal Canadian Artillery. He went overseas in March 1942 and saw service in Scotland, Wales, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany. Famous actions in which he took part were at Caen and the Falaise Gap. He returned to Canada in the fall of 1945 and received his discharge on January 9th in the following year. He is now again farming near Belmont—which was his pre-war occupation.

## **Pte. Olga C. Dubyts**

**PTE. OLGA CHRISTINA DUBYTS**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Dubyts, Belmont, Manitoba, joined the C.W.A.C. at Winnipeg in January, 1945. Before enlisting, she had been employed by the T. Eaton Co. as a secretary.

Her basic training was obtained at Kitchener, Ont. In March she was posted to London, Ontario, where she was engaged as secretary in the Military Inspection Room. She received her discharge here, in November, 1945.

Olga is now a stenographer at Winnipeg.

## **Capt. Gordon A. Embury**

**CAPT. GORDON A. EMBURY**, son of Mr and Mrs. A. Embury, of Belmont, joined the army at Winnipeg, in April, 1942. Prior to enlistment he was a law student at the University of Manitoba.

He trained at Shilo, Manitoba, and Gordon Head, B.C., where he obtained his commission. He served in the Western Theatre of operations with the Winnipeg Rifles from Caen onwards. He gave conspicuous leadership to his troops at the Schelde Estuary. For outstanding services he was promoted to the rank of Captain and awarded the Military Cross. He returned to Canada in the spring of 1946 and was discharged at Winnipeg.

Gordon recently passed his final exam in law, winning honors, and lives with his wife (nee Bernice Phillips) in Winnipeg, at 377 Home St. There is one little girl, Heather Lee.

### **Pte. Charles La Forrest**

**PTE. CHARLES LA FORREST**, son of Mrs. D. La Forrest, joined the army at Winnipeg in May 1941. He had been working on a dairy farm near Winnipeg. He received his basic training during twelve months at Portage la Prairie. He was sent overseas in June 1942 and saw action in Italy, France, Holland and Belgium. He took part in the invasion of Italy and the long drive northward towards Rome. Then his unit was transferred for the opening of the "Second Front" in Western Europe in 1944. He returned to Canada in 1945 on the New Amsterdam and received his discharge at Winnipeg in October 1945. He was working on a farm around Belmont this spring, but was suddenly taken ill and is now in the Ninette Sanatorium.

### **Pte. Albert Grosse**

**PTE. ALBERT GROSSE**, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Grosse of Belmont, left the home farm to enlist in the army at Winnipeg on June 4th 1941. He received basic training at Winnipeg and then at Sussex, New Brunswick. He was sent overseas in March 1943 to England, and returned to Canada in February 1946, receiving his discharge at Winnipeg in April 1946. He is now farming near Hilton. In January 1946 he married Edna Brooker and they now have two children, Yvonne Shirley and Valerie Anne.

### **LAC. Roy Harrison**

**L.A.C. ROY HARRISON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Harrison, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the R.C.A.F. at Winnipeg in September, 1943. He had been in business with his father.

He trained in Brandon, Virden, Winnipeg and in Yorkton he served as a hospital helper. He received his discharge at Winnipeg in the Spring of 1946.

He is now a partner in J. W. Harrison and Sons, Belmont.

### **Bandsman Mickey Hrycaike**

**BANDSMAN MICKEY HRYCAIKE**, of Winnipeg married Miss Sadie McLeod of Belmont before going overseas with No. 1 R.C.E.R.C. He was attached to A. Wing.

### **Stanley Irwin**

**STANLEY IRWIN**, son of the late Mr. Thos. and Mrs. Irwin, of Belmont, left his father's farm and joined the Army in Winnipeg. He served with the Provost Corps within the Dominion, particularly at Debert, Nova Scotia. He returned to Winnipeg for discharge in the spring of 1946, and went back to the farm.

### **L. Cpl. R. W. Irwin**

**L. CPL. RAYMOND W. IRWIN**, of Belmont son of the late Mr. Thos. and Mrs. Irwin, left the home farm and enlisted at Winnipeg in the Army. He was sent overseas after training and served in the western theatre of operations with the 18th Armored Car Regiment. He returned to Canada in the spring of 1946, and was finally discharged at Winnipeg. He returned to work on the home farm, north of Belmont.

### **F. Lt. Irving A. Irwin**

**FLIGHT LIEUTENANT IRVING A. IRWIN**, joined the R.C.A.F. He served within the Dominion with the R.C.A.F. Service Police. He was commissioned and obtained the rank of Flight Lieutenant. On his discharge at Winnipeg he obtained employment with the War Assets Corporation.

### **L. Cpl. L. J. Irwin**

**L. CPL. LLOYD J. IRWIN**, son of the late Thos. and Mrs. Irwin left his work on the farm and enlisted at Winnipeg. He went overseas and served in the Western theatre with No. 1 C.A.C.R.U. as a Lance Corporal. He returned to Canada in the spring of 1946 and was finally discharged at Winnipeg. Throughout his service he had the remarkable army number of H-77777 which occasioned many a comment. Lloyd married a girl from The Netherlands, August Massolt, last summer. He has returned to his pre-war employment—farming.

### **Tpr. Albert Jacobs**

**TROOPER ALBERT JACOBS** worked for R. Williamson of Belmont before he enlisted in the Army. He volunteered at Winnipeg and was trained at Camp Borden. He was with No. 3 Canadian Armoured Corps Reinforcement Unit and saw service overseas. On his discharge from the service at the end of the war he left Belmont and is now working with relatives in Ontario.

### **Pte. Alex MacLean**

**PTE. ALEXANDER MacLEAN** was in both world wars. He left his farm at Belmont to enlist at Winnipeg in August 1943 and after preliminary training, worked as a guard at internment camps in Canada with the S.E.E. B.E. He was stationed at Vancouver and Trail, B.C., Lethbridge, Alberta, and Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. He received his discharge on August 15th 1945 and is at present working at Shilo Camp.

## **L. A. C. Ivan McLeod**

**L.A.C. IVAN McLEOD**, son of Mr. and Mrs. John McLeod, enlisted in the R.C.A.F. at Winnipeg in 1942 having previously been a truck driver for Henry's Dry Cleaners. He was trained as a mechanic in the R.C.A.F. and saw service at Prince Rupert, B.C., St. Thomas, Ont.; Allaford Bay, B.C. and Boundary Bay, B.C. He received his discharge in June 1946 at Winnipeg where he is now living at 688 Ashburn. He had married Ann Thompson of Winnipeg in June 1943. They have one little girl, Sherrill June.

## **Pte. Lorne Clifford Myers**

**PTE. LORNE CLIFFORD MYERS**, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Myers of Belmont, left his work on the home farm to enlist in the army on November 22nd, 1944 at Winnipeg. He received his basic training at Winnipeg and Camp Borden. He spent his service within the Dominion and was finally discharged at Winnipeg on September 8th, 1945. He has returned to his former occupation—farming.

## **Pte. John T. Myers**

**PTE. JOHN THEODORE MYERS**, son of Mrs. George Myers, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the army at Winnipeg, in April, 1943. Prior to enlisting he was in the employ of Mr. Geo. Mooney, a Wawanesa farmer.

His basic training was received at Portage la Prairie. He was posted to Camp Debert, Sydney, Sussex, Niagara Falls, Aurora and in November, 1945, to Wetaskiwin, Alberta. His discharge was received at Winnipeg in December, 1945.

## **LAC. Raymond G. Smith**

**L.A.C. RAYMOND G. SMITH**, son of Mrs. David Maloney, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the airforce at Winnipeg, in December, 1940. Before enlisting he had attended Musker Engineering school in Winnipeg and was employed by David Maloney of Central Garage at Belmont, Manitoba.

His initial training was received at St. Thomas in January, 1941, and then he was posted to No. 12 S.F. T.S. at Brandon. In August, 1942, he went to Anchorage, Alaska. He also spent time at Kodiak. In April, 1943, he went on duty at Sea Island and in December, at Port Hardy. He also served at Patricia Bay and his West coast service was with the 8th Squadron. Raymond was discharged at Winnipeg, in July, 1945.

He is now a garageman at Smith's Garage at Neelin, Manitoba.

## **John E. Smith**

**JOHN E. SMITH**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Smith, saw service in the Army. He enlisted at Winnipeg and served throughout in Canada. He travelled with prisoners from New York and points east to the west coast as part of his duties in the Provost Corps. He eventually obtained his discharge at Winnipeg, and returned to work on his father's farm at Belmont.

## **Signalman J. T. Smith**

**SIGNALMAN JAMES T. SMITH**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Smith, joined the Army. He served overseas in the western theatre of war with the 1st Canadian Army Signals. He returned to Canada in the spring of 1946 and obtained his discharge at Winnipeg. He then obtained employment at Trail, British Columbia.

He married Marie Cam Oor of the Netherlands on May 10, 1947. They are now back at Belmont staying in his home district, where they contemplate farming.

## **Sgt. J. A. Tree**

**SGT. JOHN ALEXANDER TREE**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jos Tree of Belmont, left his employment in construction work to enlist in the army in July 1940 at Vancouver. He trained in Victoria, Camp Borden, and Diebert, Ontario. Originally he joined the Canadian Scottish but later transferred to the North Shore Regiment. He landed in France on D-Day and took part in the assault on the key dyke on the Rhine. Despatches said: "Sgt. Jack Tree snapped into the breach and took his men on to their objective as far as his orders would permit."

On another occasion when in Germany he entered an enemy town with one other soldier and took 23 prisoners and rescued several of his own platoon who had been captured. He was wounded in the arm. He returned to Canada in 1945 and was discharged at Kelowna, B.C. He is now working as a plasterer in British Columbia.

## **Pte. William Tree**

**PTE. WILLIAM TREE**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tree of Belmont, was farming until he enlisted in the Army in April 1942 at Winnipeg. He was trained at Shilo Camp and then transferred to the Lake Superior Regiment. He went overseas in August and landed in France on V-Day. He stayed through to the relief of Belgium where he was wounded and gassed by a shell. He was flown back to England where he remained until after V.E. Day. He then returned to Holland in the Army of Occupation. He came back to Canada on the Queen Elizabeth and had Christmas dinner on the voyage in 1945. He was discharged at Winnipeg in March of 1946. Bill has received a bronze souvenir tablet from the Burgomaster of Ede, Holland, in recognition of his services. He is now working with a construction gang in Western Ontario.

## **Cpl. George S. Trenter**

**CORPORAL GEORGE S. TRENTER**, of Belmont, son of S. Trenter, enlisted in the Army at Winnipeg. He had previously been a student at school. He received his basic training at Brandon and Camp Shilo with the Artillery. At present he is with the Permanent Force and was recently stationed at Yorkton.

### **Cpl. William J. Trinder**

**CPL. WILLIAM JAMES TRINDER**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Trinder, of Belmont, Man., joined the army at Vancouver, in June, 1940. He had been employed in the Caribou Gold Mines at Wells, B.C.

His early training was received at Vancouver and Petawawa. He went overseas in October, 1941 and went from England to the Italian Campaign and when it concluded he went to North West Europe till the end of the war. He came home on the Ile de France in September 1945. He was discharged in Vancouver in November, 1945.

William is now part owner in an Electric repair shop at Vancouver.

### **L. A. C. John R. Williamson**

**L.A.C. JOHN ROSS WILLIAMSON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Williamson of Belmont, enlisted in the R.C.A.F. while he was attending University at Winnipeg. He was posted to the Manning Depot, Toronto, and thence went to Halifax, Alymer, Trenton, Rockcliffe and Lachine, Que. He spent his war years within Canada and was discharged in September 1946. He then resumed his studies at University. He now lives with his wife and son Norman in Winnipeg.

### **Gnr. Reuben Williamson**

**GUNNER REUBEN WILLIAMSON**, who was formerly farming south of Belmont enlisted early in the war and received his early training at Fort Osborne barracks, Winnipeg, in which city he enlisted. After a period of service within Canada with the Royal Canadian Artillery he was subsequently discharged and settled on the outskirts of Winnipeg with his wife and family. His present employment is gardening.

### **Sgt. Allan G. Williamson**

**SGT. ALLAN GRAHAM WILLIAMSON**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Williamson of Belmont, enlisted at Toronto in August 1941 while he was attending University. He went through the Manning Depot at Toronto and thence to Camp Borden, Ontario. He served in the Royal Canadian Dental Corps. He is now back as a student and is doing medical research work at the University of Toronto, Ontario.

### **Cpl. E. Wilkinson**

**CPL. E. WILKINSON** worked in the Belmont district prior to enlistment at Winnipeg. He served with the Canadian Army overseas, and was attached to No. 5 Wing, C.T.S.

### **Cpl. Reno J. Venier**

**CPL. RENO J. VENIER**, son of Mrs. A. Venier, of Belmont, Manitoba, joined the airforce at Winnipeg, in August, 1943. Prior to enlistment he was in the employ of the God's Lake Gold Mines.

His basic training was received at Montreal. He also served at Three Rivers, Trenton, Vancouver, Winnipeg and Calgary.

He is now working for Scott Bathgate and he lives with his mother at 561 Beverley St., Winnipeg.

### **Pte. K. C. Vrooman**

**PTE. K. C. VROOMAN** was living on the home farm near Belmont at the beginning of the war. He enlisted at Winnipeg on Nov. 15th 1943 in the Army. He received basic training at Fort Garry, Winnipeg and then went to Shilo. He spent three months at Neys, Ontario, and three months at Brandon, then returned to Shilo Camp where he still is. He is in the Dental Corps. On June 10th he married Muriel Steadman of Elgin.

In the preceding pages we have tried to give the true picture of Belmont and district at the present time, and given the war record of its boys and girls of the three services.

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If we have omitted any one we beg their pardon. There come to our minds however a few more to add to the pioneer list of the older members of our community. They are Mr. Herb Moffat, aged 84; Mrs. Geo. Myres, Mr. Geo. Wanless, Mr. Grant Campbell, Mrs. John Weir, Mr. Fred Webster, Jas. Briscoe, aged 75, A. J. Box, Dunc. Campbell, A. Embury, Charlie Maxwell, John McLeod, and Thos. Yeo.



## For Freedom

---

These are God's Warriors  
They endured the perils on sea  
And land and in the air;  
That saved we might be.  
Let's honor them; And bow the knee  
To God who gave, thro' them,  
His Strength to  
Keep us free.  
The Battle's done;  
And beneath the silenced hush  
Of Peace's fluttering wings  
Let's pray  
For better things to come,  
A brighter day,  
A saner world that helps the weakest one.

Written by Norman T. Smith, June, 1948

# Roll of Honor

"Their Glory, undimmed by time, shall go down in the annals of this Community, and shall live for ever in the history of this country."

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In the following roll we have used these markings to indicate:—

† Gave the supreme sacrifice.

† Wounded.

\* Served Overseas.

---

†\*Chapman, Jas.

†\*Money, Geordie

†\*McClay, Merton L.

†\*McLeod, Donald

† Stevenson, Thomas

†\*Venier, Jack

†\*Weir, Ivan A.

---

†\*Bradford, Wendell

†\*Cline, Earle

†\*Laluk Wm.

†\*Jones, Jack

†\*McCutcheon, William H.

†\*Spring, James

†\*Sutcliffe, Dick

†\*Tree, Wm.

†\*Tree, John

---

Alcock, Margaret

Astley, Cyril

\*Bennett, D. E.

\*Bjornson, Paul

Box, James

\*Briscoe, Gerald A.

\*Budd, Royce Douglas

\*Butler, Dorothy M.

\*Campbell, Charles

Chambers, Russel

Cline, Henry B.

\*Cooper, Jack L.

Currie, Ewart Vincent

\*Dalgleish, John

Darlington, Laura

Desrocher, Benny R.

Dubyts, Olga C.

Durham, Morris G.

Elgar, William G.

\*Embury, Gordon A.

\*Gall, Ray

Giesbrecht, John E.

Grosse, Albert

\*Grosse, John

Gordon, James L.

\*Gordon, John Stewart

\*Gordon, Lloyd

Gowing, Borrett

Gowing Raymond

Graham, Wesley D.

Haig, Edwin

\*Hall, Melvin G.

Harrison, Elmer

Harrison, Roy

\*Hycraike, Mickey

\*Irwin, Lloyd J.

Irwin, Irving A.

\*Irwin, Raymond W.

Irwin, Stanley  
 \*Jacobs, Albert  
 \*Jenkins, Howard  
 \*Jones, Lionel  
     Kinley, Francis Ross  
     Kinley, John Alexander  
 \*Kinley, Walter L.  
 \*Kinley, William R.  
 \*La Forest, Charles  
 \*Lambkin, Howard B.  
     Lambkin, Murray A.  
 \*Lambkin, Thomas O.  
     Lambkin, Wilfred F.  
 \*Lang, Lyle  
     Loney, William J.  
 \*Lukiw, Harry  
 \*Lukiw, Jack  
 \*Maloney, Pauline A.  
 \*Marshall, Albert V.  
     Martin, Philip E.  
 \*Matchett, Stewart  
 \*Matheson, James L.  
     Maxwell, Earle W.  
     Maxwell, Murray  
 \*Melville, Wm. H.  
     Myers, John Theodore  
     Myers, Lorne Clifford  
 \*MacFarlane, A. W.  
     MacFarlane, Gordon R.  
     McGill, Elmer  
     McGill, Jack  
     McLeod, Ivan  
     McLean, Alex  
     McPhail, W. Roy  
 \*Nicholson, James

Nicholson, John Henry  
 \*Nicholson, J. S.  
     Pryke, Percy W.  
     Rodgers, William D.  
     Sampson, Raymond  
 \*Smith, James  
     Smith, John E.  
     Smith, Raymond G.  
     Smorhay, Paul  
 \*Spring, David A.  
     Stephenson, Cecil  
     Stephenson, Glenn S.  
     Stevenson, H. C.  
 \*Stevenson, S. W. K.  
     Struthers, Robert  
 \*Sykes, Basil  
     Syms, Gordon E.  
     Thompson, Alvin  
     Trenter, George S.  
 \*Trinder, William J.  
     Venier, Reno J.  
     Vigneux, Beryl  
 \*Vincent, Mabel  
     Vrooman, Kenneth C.  
     Watson, Robert  
     Webster, Francis H.  
 \*Webster, George  
 \*Webster, Ivan D.  
     Westbrook, Samuel G.  
 \*Wilkinson, E.  
     Williamson, Allan A.  
     Williamson, J. Ross  
     Williamson, J. Reuben  
 \*Yeo, Clarence S.  
     Yeo, Thomas H.



## “High Flight”

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds  
of earth  
And danced the skies on laughter-  
silver wings;  
Sunward I've climbed, and joined  
the tumbling mirth  
Of sun-split clouds — and done a  
hundred things  
You have not dreamed of—wheeled  
and soared and swung  
High in the sunlit silence.  
Hov'ring there,  
I've chased the shouting wind along  
and flung  
My eager craft through footless  
halls of air.

Up, up the long, delirious, burning  
blue  
I've topped the wind-swept heights  
with easy grace  
Where never lark, or even eagle  
flew—  
And, while, with silent lifting  
mind I've trod  
The high untrespassed sanctity of  
space,  
Put out my hand and touched the  
Face of God.

Written by John G. Magee, Jr., a member of the Royal Canadian Air Force, while flying 30,000 feet in the air. He was later killed in action







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